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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER  
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION  
HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

US concerned about Turkish Cypriot polls - Milliyet  
Ankara offers EU Zana in exchange for KADEK - Hurriyet  
US warns its nationals to leave Israel - Turkiye  
Security to be enhanced around Turkey's Baghdad embassy -  
Sabah  
Israeli energy minister: Israel should apologize for  
civilian casualties - Sabah  
Saddam has \$500 million in Turkish banks - Aksam  
Koizumi calls Bush "Beefman" - Hurriyet

OPINION MAKERS

Gen. Myers: US to stay in Iraq for at least another year -  
Cumhuriyet  
Fiery Cyprus polemic between Erdogan, Denktas - Radikal  
US wants observers for Turkish Cypriot election - Cumhuriyet  
Springtime continues in the Aegean - Radikal  
HRW claims US troops use excessive force in Iraq - Radikal  
Rumsfeld launches investigation of Gen. Boykin - Yeni Safak  
Bosnia bids farewell to Alija - Zaman  
Israel seriously damages Gaza - Yeni Safak  
Iran signs nuclear control agreement - Cumhuriyet  
Greek Cypriots admit country a haven for money launderers -  
Zaman

BRIEFING

\$8.5 billion loan controversy: Foreign Minister Gul  
repeated on Tuesday that the \$8.5 billion US loan for Turkey  
is not tied to a condition of troop deployment in Iraq.  
Turkey's economy is not in urgent need of the loan, Gul  
stressed. Prime Minister Erdogan said that Turkey would  
accept the money, and that the first tranche of the loan  
would arrive late October. Erogan said the \$8.5 billion  
loan agreement was not conditioned on Turkey staying out of  
Northern Iraq. Papers drew attention to the fact that the  
loan agreement had not been submitted to the cabinet for  
approval, and that the GOT has not applied to the US  
Treasury for release of the first tranche of money. Ankara  
says the credit, approved by the US Congress for Turkey's  
frail economy ahead of the invasion of Iraq, is not  
essential to tackling the country's debt load.

Turkey bargains with EU over KADEK: "Hurriyet" claims on  
its front page that Turkish officials promised EU Commission  
members that Ankara would 'change the course of the DEP  
(Democracy Party) case' if KADEK were placed on the EU list  
of terror organizations. Kurdish politician Leyla Zana and  
three other former DEP lawmakers are being retried on  
charges of separatism. Zana was sentenced to 15 years in  
prison in 1993. The court ruled against the release of Zana  
and her colleagues last week, which may cast a shadow over  
Turkey's progress report currently being drafted by the EU  
Commission.

US troops allegedly harassing Iraqi women: The Islamist  
"Yeni Safak" cites an article by Dr. Susan Blocks, an  
American, claiming that US troops raped 4000 Iraqi women in  
the early days of the Iraq occupation. Iraqi females  
between the ages of 40-50 have been used to feed the sexual

fantasies of American soldiers, Blocks claimed. Sexual violence is prevalent in Iraq, Blocks writes, adding that abduction and rape are spreading like a plague. Rape victims include women between the ages of 9 and 64, she notes. Dr. Blocks also claims that female relatives of detained Iraqis are also being held in custody. Israelis buying land in Northern Iraq: Dailies cite the Israeli newspaper "Yediot Ahronot" as reporting that the MFA has warned Israeli Embassy officials in Ankara against the purchase of land by Israelis in the oil-rich Northern Iraqi town of Mosul. Ankara is concerned that Israel might be providing support to Kurds in the region. However, Israeli government officials have assured Ankara that such press reports are without foundation.

Gul, Papandreou meet in Athens: During his visit to Athens on Tuesday, Foreign Minister Gul voiced Turkey's determination to solve the Cyprus and Aegean disputes. Gul discussed with Greek officials possibilities for cooperation in security, transportation and communication during the 2004 Olympic Games to take place in Athens. Greek FM Papandreou said the Olympic flame would be taken to Istanbul as well. Papers believe that Papandreou made a goodwill gesture by referring to 'Istanbul' as well as 'Constantinople,' the term ordinarily used by Greek officials. Papers draw attention to the 'marvelous' welcome given to the Turkish delegation in Athens, and note the absence of protest demonstrations.

Denktas unhappy with Ankara: Turkish Cypriot leader Denktas said that Ankara should clarify its support for his government before the general elections in northern Cyprus scheduled for December. Prime Minister Erdogan said last week that the course of the Cyprus talks could be changed if the pro-EU Turkish Cypriot opposition emerges victorious. Erdogan also noted that a constant refusal of the Annan Plan will not help efforts to find a solution. Denktas claimed that the Greek Cypriot National Council is seeking a single state on the island, demanding restoration of property rights for displaced Greeks, and calling for an end to Turkey's guarantor status.

US concerned of Turkish Cypriot polls: US State Department Spokesman Adam Ereli voiced concern about possible irregularities in Turkish Cypriot voter lists. The US regards the polls as a crucial opportunity for Turks to express their views on a Cyprus settlement based on the UN-sponsored peace plan. Ereli stressed that the elections would be, in a sense, a referendum on the Annan Plan. Meanwhile, US Special Cyprus Coordinator Thomas Weston said in Ankara on Tuesday that European observers should be allowed to monitor the elections.

#### EDITORIAL OPINION:

- a) Iraq
- b) Cyprus

"Nobody is in a hurry right now"  
Sami Kohen wrote in the mass appeal Milliyet (10/22): "The process leading toward a deployment of Turkish troops to Iraq began with great enthusiasm. This initial enthusiasm has given way to reluctance despite the fact that Turkey passed the troop authorization through parliament. This is the result of changing conditions and circumstances in Iraq over the past several weeks, which has put a brake on the US desire for Turkish troops. As for Turkey's position on the issue, it seems that Ankara has failed to assess the current situation in Iraq, and has overlooked the deep sentiment against foreign forces and its impact on US policy. . Turkey is now waiting for the US to adopt a clear stance on the troop deployment issue. As Turkish officials put it, 'Turkey is ready to wait until it happens.' This means that Ankara believes that the persuasion of Iraqi groups on the issue is solely the job of the United States."

"Cyprus in a flurry"  
Okay Gonensin noted in the mass appeal Vatan (10/22): "Results of the Turkish Cypriot elections will not only shape the future destiny of Turkish Cypriots, but the destiny of the whole island. The pro-Denktaş team is doing its best to ensure that it wins the game. Denktaş also claims that he has full support from the Turkish military. In fact, Turkish military support for Northern Cyprus is about military and strategic considerations, not about politics. . Solving Cyprus is the key for Turkey's accession to the European Union. Turkey cannot possibly go through

the EU integration procedure unless the `Cyprus key' is turned to open the current logjam. . Rhetoric suggesting that the Cyprus issue should be dealt with after the start of full membership talks between Turkey and the EU commences is nothing but a tactical game to prevent Turkey's membership from taking place. . The elections must be fair and open. Even a tiny shadow means an act of betrayal against Turkey and Turkish Cypriots."

EDELMAN